



SECRETARIAT

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20 March 2015

To the members of the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)

Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 17 March 2015

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), meeting in Paris on 17 March 2015, with Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Post-monitoring dialogue with Monaco** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jordi Xuclà, Spain, ALDE*): heard an oral report by the rapporteur on his fact-finding visit of 20 February 2015; considered the comments of the Monegasque authorities on the preliminary draft report on the post-monitoring dialogue with Monaco; held an exchange of views; approved a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution, as amended, with a view to presenting the report at the April 2015 part-session;
- **Follow-up to Resolution 2034 (2015): Reconsideration of sanctions in respect of the delegation of the Russian Federation to the Parliamentary Assembly**: heard a statement by the Chair; held an exchange of views and, in the light of the manifest lack of progress on the demands of the Assembly formulated in Resolution 2034 (2015), instructed the Chair to write to the President of the Assembly requesting that the debate on this subject be withdrawn from the agenda of the April 2015 part-session and that a current affairs debate be held on “the political and security situation in Ukraine and its implications”; thus agreed that a committee meeting on Sunday 19 April 2015 would not now be necessary; decided to invite Ms Heidi Tagliavini, the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office in Ukraine and in the Trilateral Contact Group on the implementation of the peace plan in the East of Ukraine, at one of its next meetings;
- **Preliminary draft reports on countries not under the monitoring procedure *stricto sensu* or engaged in a post-monitoring dialogue** (*Rapporteur ex officio: Mr Stefan Schennach, Austria, SOC*): approved the guidelines and timetable for the presentation of the reports on countries not under the monitoring procedure *stricto sensu* or engaged in a post-monitoring dialogue; held exchanges of views; invited the Committee members to send any comments in writing by 27 March latest and approved the preliminary draft reports on Andorra, Belgium, Croatia and Cyprus; decided to transmit these reports to the authorities of the respective countries for their comments with a view to holding exchanges of views with representatives of the ruling majority and opposition of these countries during a committee meeting in September 2015;
- **Ad hoc Sub-Committee on Frozen Conflicts**: held an exchange of views and asked the chair to present a revised draft decision at its next meeting;
- **Post-monitoring dialogue with Montenegro**: postponed the appointment of co-rapporteurs to its next meeting;
- **Azerbaijan** (*Co-rapporteurs: Mr Pedro Agramunt, Spain, EPP/CD and Mr Tadeusz Iwiński, Poland, SOC*): heard an oral report by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Baku on 2-3 March 2015, held

an exchange of views and agreed to consider a preliminary draft report on the functioning of democratic institutions in Azerbaijan at its meeting in May 2015, with a view to presenting the report at the June 2015 part-session;

– **Ukraine** (Co-rapporteurs: Ms Mailis Reps, Estonia, ALDE, and Mr Jean-Claude Mignon, France, EPP/CD): held an exchange of views on recent developments in the country;

– **Georgia** (Co-rapporteurs: Mr Michael Aastrup Jensen, Denmark, ALDE and Mr Boriss Cilevičs, Latvia, SOC): considered an information note by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit of 3-5 December 2014, held an exchange of views and agreed to declassify the information note;

– **Post-monitoring dialogue with “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”** (Rapporteur: Mr Robert Walter, United Kingdom, EC): held an exchange of views on recent developments in the country and decided to send a delegation, composed of the rapporteur, the Chairperson of the Monitoring Committee and the Chairperson of the Socialist Group to carry out a fact-finding visit regarding the current political crisis in the country following the parliamentary and presidential elections of April 2014;

– **Authorisation of fact-finding visits:** authorised visits to Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine;

– **Next meetings:** decided to hold its next meetings as follows:

Strasbourg, 20-24 April 2015 (during the Assembly part-session)

Paris, 28 May 2015

Strasbourg, 22-26 June 2015 (during the Assembly part-session)

Sarajevo, early September 2015 (to be confirmed and subject to authorisation of the Assembly Bureau)

Strasbourg, 28 September – 2 October 2015 (during the Assembly part-session)

Paris, 3 November 2015 (to be confirmed)

Paris, 9 December 2015 (to be confirmed).

Caroline Ravaud, Bas Klein, Sylvie Affholder, Delphine Freymann

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly

Director General, Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly

Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly

Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations

Secretary General of the Congress

Secretary to the Committee of Ministers

Directors General

Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights

Director of Communication

Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe